

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA:WDROGERS:CJS

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ARA/BC:WLOWENTHAL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 282507

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN REACTION TO ARMS BAN

REF: SANTIAGO 7779

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM ROGERS

1. WE WILL HAVE MORE TO SAY IN RESPONSE TO YOUR HELPFUL
REFTEL LATER. BUT WE QUITE AGREE THAT WE SHOULD MEET
HERE FOR A PLENARY REVIEW OF THE DOUR 1975 PROSPECTS FOR
CHILE FOLLOWING THE COM. PERHAPS FRIDAY WOULD BE BEST.

2. FOR THAT PURPOSE IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF YOU COULD
REFLECT ON THE EFFECT IN CHILE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL ARMS
BAN. PERHAPS YOU MIGHT BRING WITH YOU A MEMORANDUM WHICH
ADDRESSES SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS: WHAT HAS BEEN THE
GENERAL PUBLIC REACTION? WHAT, THE REACTION WITHIN THE
JUNTA? HAS THE BAN ERODED THE BASE OF JUNTA SUPPORT?
IS IT LIKELY TO INCREASE CONSIDERABLY THE STRENGTH AND
THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE JUNTA'S OPPONENTS? IF SO, WHICH
ONES? THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS? THE MIR? WITHIN THE
GOVERNMENT, IS THE BAN LIKELY TO INCREASE OR DECREASE
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THE TEMPTATION TO AN ADVENTURE ON THE PERUVIAN BORDER?

HAS IT INSPIRED SUICIDAL TENDENCIES? NASSERIST DREAMS?
HAS IT DIVIDED THE JUNTA? OR GIVEN IT A GREATER SENSE OF
UNITY? WILL IT INCREASE THE MOMENTUM TOWARDS HUMAN RIGHTS
IMPROVEMENT? IF SO, WHAT SPECIFICALLY NOW DOES THE GOC
HAVE IN MIND BY WAY OF DEMONSTRATION THAT IT IS PREPARED
TO IMPROVE ITS HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD? IF ANYTHING?

2. WILL IT CLAMP DOWN ALL THE HARDER, ON THE ASSUMPTION
THAT ITS OPPONENTS HAVE DONE ALL THEY COULD DO? WHAT
EFFECT WILL IT HAVE ON ECONOMIC POLICIES AND CONDITIONS?
FINALLY, HOW DOES THE JUNTA NOW PERCEIVE THAT IT IS
PERCEIVED IN OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD? BROWN

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